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# USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1598



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## ARMED FORCES

### FUEL ECONOMY METHODS DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 19

[Article by WO M. Semenov of the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District: "Out of Drops Come Tons"]

[Text] Sgt I. Nosachev was unmoved:

"I will not release any fuel until you find the cap to the fuel tank," he repeated to Pvt V. Shakirzyanov.

"After the trip I will put back the cap, I promise. But now, please, fill up the vehicle. Certainly there won't be much loss...."

The sergeant looked closely at the driver and then asked him into the service room and held out one of the books lying on the desk:

"Read outloud what is written there."

The driver began to read. But he had not finished the paragraph when Nosachev stopped him:

"What does that say? Through an opening of 1 cm<sup>2</sup> with intensive ventilation of the gas area in summertime during a day up to a kilogram of fuel can evaporate. As you see, the loss is not slight."

Pvt Shakirzyanov shrugged his shoulders and said in amazement:

"I would never have thought...."

Of course, the cap was found but this seemingly minor case served as the pretext for the recently held serious discussion at one of the Komsomol meetings in the battalion at which they talked about the careful and rational consumption of fuel and lubricants [GSM]. In the speeches it was emphasized that not all the soldiers and sergeants have a thrifty attitude toward the use of the GSM. For example, the company technician WO ["praporshchik"] P. Sidorov gave the following fact. Pvt A. Bogdanov went out on a trip knowing that the fuel tank of his vehicle was leaking.

"As it turned out," the warrant officer continued, "the fellow servicemen of Bogdanov knew about this but were silent."



The meeting was held in a business-like manner. The Komsomol members took a decision to strengthen the struggle to save oil products. For this all the men promised to take an active part in reequipping the fueling area, to maintain the motor vehicles in an exemplary state and constantly improve their professional skills.

More than a year has passed since then. This is a sufficient time to sum up the results of what has been done. In the battalion the struggle to save and economize on the GSM has become a daily concern of all the men. Last year the men of the subunit appealed to the personnel of the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District "On Further Developing the Struggle to Save Fuel and Lubricants." And we have affirmed our words with deeds. During the year more than 26 tons of gasoline and 20 tons of diesel fuel were saved and 7 tons of used oil products were turned in. How did we achieve this?

First of all, the conditions for fuel storage and fueling the equipment were improved and this helped to reduce natural losses. In carrying out the orders of the commander, the battalion Komsomol members participated in reequipping the fueling area. The men did shock work on this project: they prepared the excavations for the tanks, and installed the equipment and gas pumps. And in just 3 months the work was finished.

Now a brick building is being painted in the motor pool. It has three areas including a room for the fueling operator with a good view. In the room for issuing oil the soldiers have equipped a GSM corner. Here the company technicians regularly conduct exercises with the drivers on the use and rational consumption of the GSM.

In order to avoid great temperature fluctuations the fuel tanks were sunk into the ground. As a result fuel evaporation has been reduced and this has also provided an additional savings of GSM. Next to the fuel pumps we have put up posters which convincingly show what fuel losses can arise as a result of various malfunctions. For example, with the incorrect setting of the ignition advance angle the overconsumption of gasoline can be from 3 to 15 percent while an untight valve on the carburetor economizing leads to a fuel loss up to 10-15 percent.

The contacts between the GSM service and the companies have become closer and more specific. Now the chief of the GSM dump, Sgt I. Nosachev, not only makes certain that the fuel and oils are stored in accord with the established requirements but is also constantly interested in the condition of the equipment in the subunits such as whether or not there are any fuel leaks in the engine feed systems and so forth. The experienced specialist maintains constant contact with the secretaries of the Komsomol organizations and gives them advice on how to better organize the struggle for GSM savings.

The technical state of the motor vehicles is one of the basic factors which influences the consumption of fuel and oils. Even slight malfunctions can be the cause of their overconsumption. For example, weak headlights because of an incorrectly selected bulb power would seemingly not influence an increase in fuel consumption. However, with poor visibility the driver reduces vehicle speed and is unable to fully utilize the coasting of the vehicle or develop the proper speed before a grade. And such modes are uneconomic. The company technicians, WOs V. Karmanov and N. Sidorov act perfectly correctly in each day analyzing the efficient operation of

motor transport. And at general meetings of the companies once a month they sum up the results of saving oil products.

Certainly the consumption of GSN to a significant degree is determined by the skill of the driver and by the use of correct driving habits. This is emphasized by the battalion officers and warrant officers in the struggle to disseminate the advanced experience of the best drivers.

At one time WO N. Sidorov decided to calculate gasoline consumption in the starting up of a vehicle. He compared the actions of two specialists, the experienced driver Pvt A. Olyushkiyev, and a less trained one, Pvt A. Bogdanov. The first of them started the vehicle up smoothly, while the second began very abruptly in racing the engine. When they measured fuel consumption, it turned out that Pvt Olyushkiyev merely by correct actions had saved enough fuel to run 100-200 m. This simple example more eloquently than any words convinced the drivers that only the skillful operation of the equipment makes it possible to fight effectively for the saving of GSN.

Sgts E. Shalburov, A. Kolesnikov and V. Zarochintsev are the pride of the collective as they are true masters of their job. They promptly and efficiently service the vehicles, they have a good knowledge of the established fuel consumption rates and on routes choose the optimum speeds. The leaders of the socialist competition for saving and thriftiness generously share their experience with fellow servicemen on the pages of the technical bulletin and at special-subject evening meetings.

In the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, serious attention is paid to an economic and thrifty attitude on the part of the Soviet people to using the material resources of the nation. In carrying out this demand, the motor troops of the battalion are successfully searching for unutilized reserves for the rational consumption of GSN.

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## AIR FORCES

### HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE DISCUSSED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 11

[Article by Engr-Sr Lt V. Dolgishev of the Red Banner Volga Military District:  
"Helicopters Our First Concern"]

[Text] The aviation specialists always respond in a respectful manner about flight technician, WO ["praporshchik"] Vladimir Selishchev:

"He knows the aircraft down to the last bolt. He maintains it in an exemplary condition."

Here is how he was described by the chief of the flight TECH [maintenance unit],  
Sr Lt V. Rastorguyev:

"Efficiency, technical ability and a high sense of the assigned job are inherent to the highest degree to the supporter of proper order, V. Selishchev."

The warrant officer carries out the repairs in strict accord with the instructions. He carefully inspects all the assemblies and each system of the helicopter. For example, he has removed a cowling. Where should it be put? Directly on the fuselage or on the concrete next to the helicopter? In no instance! There is a special rack for this. The wrenches, screwdrivers and punches are fastened in place in the tool box. Everything is at your fingertips.

Let me tell about one of the training flights. It was coming to an end when suddenly the flight technician caught an unusual sound in the operation of the engines. Immediately after landing, Selishchev asked the crew commander:

"I don't like something in your port engine. Let me check."

The officer tried to passify him:

"The parameters are normal. Get the helicopter ready for the next flight."

Seemingly the supposition of a failure was not affirmed. But the warrant officer insisted on his rights and the aircraft was taken out of the flights. And in testing the engines at a special area a major defect was discovered.



It might be said: "What is special about this? The flight technician acted, as he should, strictly according to the instruction." Quite correct. But precisely this is the key to the secret of success of WO Selishchev. He never departs from the instructions of a service manual and the result is that in 1,500 flying hours there has not been the slightest interruption in work or a single comment.

Selishchev is not just concerned with personal achievements. Once he discovered that a young warrant officer S. Sal'nikov did not fully inspect a helicopter.

"That is not right," the flight technician commented severely. "You have not checked the oil level in the engine oil tanks."

Sal'nikov tried to justify himself:

"I checked it after the flights and the oil level was alright."

"That is so," replied the warrant officer. "But you did not consider one thing. Yesterday when the engine was hot there was a larger volume of oil. During the night it has cooled off and consequently the oil level should drop..."

When they checked it turned out that Selishchev was right. The oil level was in fact lower than the established standard. The young warrant officer felt his failing sharply. Subsequently there was no other such criticism. Now Sal'nikov is one of the best specialists in the subunit and he himself sets an example in precisely carrying out the instructions.

Once a new flight technician arrived in the squadron from warrant officers school. The case is closed and I will not mention his name particularly as he has become a good specialist. But then, at the outset, he did not make a bad impression. You just had to listen to him: "Yes sir! I will repair it. Yes sir! I will replace it. It will be done!" From the outside he appeared efficient and knowledgeable. But communist Selishchev soon noticed that the flight technician, although young, had more than enough self-esteem. To all comments there was one reply:

"I understand the equipment and I work normally."

Once, in inspecting a helicopter after fueling the engines, Selishchev noticed an oil spot on the fuselage of the helicopter. He approached the new man and asked:

"Did you see the spot?"

"I did," replied the flight technician. "I was just going to wipe it off."

Selishchev told the young specialist that it was essential to establish why the spot had appeared.

"There I have wiped it off," and there would be no reason.

"Open the cowlings and check the sealing of the pipelines."

The flight technician opened the cowl. It turned out that as a consequence of vibration, a nut had dropped off which had been carelessly tightened. The helicopter had to be grounded.

This case became a serious lesson for the young warrant officer. Since that time he has no longer complained of comments by senior comrades but on the contrary himself has requested reassurance and additional inspection.

In the squadron where S. I. Shchegolev serves there are many first-rate specialists and masters of their job. But he is the first they turn to for aid and advice. They come to him although they are well aware of his exactingness and strictness in the approach to carrying out service duties.

"Our first concern is the helicopters!" the warrant officer reminds the new men.

Like many other aviation specialists, he successfully fulfilled the obligations assumed in honor of the 26th CPSU Congress.

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## GROUND FORCES

### MOTORIZED RIFLE COMPANY TACTICAL TRAINING

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 4-6

[Article by ZNAMENOSETS correspondent, Col G. Kuvitanov: "In Mountain Passes"]

[Text] On the tactical training fields intense training is in full swing. In carrying out the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet soldiers are steadily strengthening combat readiness and improving their skills. Experience shows that the success of the leading troop collectives is based on precise organization of the training process and high effectiveness of the exercises and drills which are as close as possible to the conditions of real combat. Proof of this are the intense efforts of the men from unit X in an alpine training center where a number of demonstration exercises were held on the most difficult combat training subjects. Below we tell about some of them.

#### A Steep Spiral

The march through the mountains involved numerous difficulties. The ruggedness of the terrain and the presence of impassable areas, the limited number of roads, the predominance of rocky and stoney ground and various obstacles, the possibility of slides and rock falls and the uniqueness of the climatic conditions significantly complicated the carrying out of the combat missions. Success would come only to those subunits the personnel of which had mastered the assigned equipment, had maintained it in excellent order and was able to operate it considering all the complexities of the mountain terrain. This was convincingly demonstrated by the motorized rifle troops of one of the leading companies in carrying out a difficult mountain march.

The trip through the mountains was preceded by well planned preparations. The company technician WO ["praporshchik"] V. Il'chenko, upon the instructions of the company commander, along with the drivers of the BTR-60 PB [armored personnel carrier] carefully prepared the equipment for the mountain march. The main attention of the BTR [armored personnel carrier] drivers was drawn to adjusting the carburetors. In knowing that under alpine conditions because of the very rarified air the engine receives an enriched mix and loses power, the specialists resolved to reduce the influence of this factor. In what manner? By adjusting the idling needle, they provided the greatest supply of air. In turn they set the octane adjustment for early firing.

In parallel with the preparing of the equipment, WO Il'chenko improved the individual skills of the BTR drivers. For this purpose individual training areas were set up for training in crossing difficult mountain obstacles, particularly hairpin curves with small turning radiuses, steep grades, rocky areas, loose ground and so forth.

A column track in the mountains was laid at elevations from 1,350 to 2,000 m above sea level. On the route there were four cornices, hairpin turns, several grades with an incline up to 30°, more than a score sharp turns, a high mountain bridge and a railroad crossing.

...Having crossed a relatively level section of a road with a slight bank, the BTR reached a cornice more than 600 m long with a left-handed turn. The width of the roadway was 4.5 m and on the right a cliff of up to 200 m; the track was laid a half meter from the edge of the cliff. Here such valuable skills acquired in training as the ability to feel the road, its dimensions and the nature of the surface came in handy for the drivers. This was particularly so in a sharp bend in the road. Each driver had been trained in so driving the BTR that the track did not precisely repeat the borderline of the road but somewhat altered it. For example, this was what was done in this section of the route by the best driver in the company, Pvt V. Kazanchuk. Some 30 m before the start of the turn he began to press the BTR up against the left-hand edge of the mountain road. As he moved further, he made certain not to catch the left side on the rocky face of the slope. Having passed the bend, the driver aimed the BTR so that the right forward wheel assumed its regular position in relation to the edge of the cliff. If one were to make such a turn graphically, it would look much gentler and hence safer and make it possible to cross the obstacle at a higher speed.

At the same time, the column, having moved at a high traveling speed along the bottom of a gorge, was approaching a hairpin turn. Its characteristics were as follows: the length of around 1 km, a roadway width of 4-5 m, grades of 25-30°, turn angles up to 160° and the track would run along the very edge of the ravine which was up to 800 m deep.

Since the turning radius along the track of the front wheel of a BTR is 12 m, the drivers had to change direction basically in two or three passes.

The grade was 30° and the limit. Moreover, there was a sharp turn by approximately 160° to the right. Pvt Gogunava, in moving over to the right side, turned the BTR a maximum to the right, now trying to promptly catch the moment of the slight touching of the breakwater on the ground of the vertical wall. It touched. The driver quickly and smoothly braked and turning the wheel sharply in the opposite direction, let the BTR slide back for those few meters which ensured safety. How important accurate judgment of distance is here. A mistake of a meter and you could fall into the ravine.... Pvt Gogunava put the BTR into low gear and moved forward....

Having reached the mountain pass, the column of BTR began an extended descent. The motorized rifle troops arrived at the designated area precisely on time and in full combat readiness.



## Thunder Over the Gorge

A motorized rifle subunit with reinforcements was carrying out a march along the bottom of the Glubokoye Gorge into the area of Borovoye. For the purpose of covering the left flank of the main forces, a flank party (BPZ) had been assigned consisting of a motorized rifle platoon. Its commander, Lt K. Gerasimchuk, received the following mission: to advance along the crest of the heights above Glubokoye Gorge along the route of the ruins of the barn, elev. Ploskaya, elev. Kamenistaya and elev. Kruglaya and to prevent a surprise "enemy" attack on the left flank against the column of route of the main forces.

The platoon commander knew about the "enemy" that individual small groups held a series of prevailing heights adjacent to the gorge. Even one "enemy" sniper who held an advantageous firing position in the rocks, in a tree on the prevailing height would be capable of causing great harm as was convincingly shown from the experience of the past war. A sniper could fire effectively from a great distance against the drivers of the motor vehicles and BTR, at the drivers and commanders of tanks, if the vehicles were moving with open hatches. Or what if an ambush was organized by a crew of an antitank gun, a grenade launcher or an antitank guided missile?...

The platoon commander most carefully organized reconnaissance. Having sent forward a patrol squad of Sgt S. Ismikhhanov to a distance of visual contact, Lt Gerasimchuk skillfully directed the actions of the scouts. His attention was drawn to a canon which split the western slopes of elev. Ploskaya and covered an area of the gorge to the very bottom. "If I were in the place of the 'enemy'," reasoned the lieutenant "I would order a group of snipers to take up a convenient position which would cover the stone bridge in the gorge. Here the canon would be like a gigantic embrasure...."

"21, this is 20. Ahead is a separate-standing tree in front of Cornyak stream and a heap of rocks beyond the stream. Inspect and report," radioed the commander to the patrol of Sgt Ismikhhanov.

The gunner of the BMP [infantry combat vehicle], Pvt Akhat Mursalov, inspected the tree through the sight. He did not notice anything. But then a gust of wind blew up and shook the dense branches. Near the trunk was a shadow. A sniper! The soldier, without hesitating, rapidly gave two short bursts at the mid<sup>le</sup> of the tree. The target was destroyed.

Ahead and to the left was elev. Kamenistaya and to the right of it elev. Kruglaya. The commander of the party ordered the patrol squad to inspect them and report back. Sgt Ismikhhanov ordered the men in the patrol Pvs Shavchenko and Vatsyak to advance along the slope of elev. Ploskaya toward the brushwood Redkiy and the pile of stones. Particular attention was to be paid to elev. Kamenistaya. The gunner was to be ready to provide fire support for the actions of the squad on the axis of elevs. Kamenistaya and Kruglaya. The "enemy" spotted the men of the patrol first and was the first to open fire in two groups. In response, the men of the patrol fired off their automatics. They were promptly supported by the machine gun from the BMP.



"20, this is 21. From elev. Kamenistaya we have been fired on by two groups of 'enemy' with a force up to a squad. There is a machine gun by the separate-standing tree. I am conducting a fire fight."

The platoon commander, having quickly assessed the situation, ordered the platoon to attack elev. Kamenistaya from the front and from the flanks.

The burst of the red rocket had not yet dissipated when the cannons and the machine guns of the BMP from the patrol sounded together. Their mighty echo rolled over the gorge.

#### Across the Canyon

A special tactical exercise in training the personnel in the procedures and methods for crossing a canon was held at three training areas.

The first of them was designed to instruct the personnel in putting up a cable crossing over a canon using a block and snap hook. Here the commander of the outstanding squad, Sgt P. Frantsuzov, acted intelligently and knowledgeably. Along with the trainees, he advanced under cover to the canyon and conducted a careful reconnaissance of the opposite side of the obstacle. Pvt A. Kebu and V. Kubakhov reported that they had detected two individual "enemy" soldiers there and they were immediately destroyed by accurate bursts of the automatics. Upon the command of Sgt Frantsuzov two of the best trained soldiers advanced to the edge of the obstacle under the cover of the squad, and they had the mission of carrying the two basic and one auxiliary lines across the canyon and anchoring them securely. For this purpose Pvt P. Turovich on his side chose a suitable rock and fastened the ends of the three ropes to it. During this time Pvt Kubakhov climbed down the steep side of the canyon with the other ends of the ropes. In a few minutes the able soldier was on the other side of the obstacle. He fastened the ends of the rope to a tree trunk and the white capron lines drawn tight by a block and tackle connected the sides of the mountain obstacle. On them were fastened the Turovskiy block on rollers with the attached auxiliary line. Fastened to the block was a load which exceeded the average weight of a man by several times. Thus they checked the reliability of the crossing and created the corresponding psychological mood in the men. After the heavy load had been delivered to the other side and back, Sgt Frantsuzov began to move the soldiers of the squad across. He checked the fastening of the chest harness for each trainee, the work of the block and recalled the safety measures.

Pvt A. Kebu was the first to go across. Pvt Kubakhov who was on the other side using the auxiliary line fastened to the block pulled his comrade to the other side. Subsequently he was helped by Pvt Kobu and the other soldiers as they arrived.

The commander of the squad complicated the drill. The trainees began to cross the canyon independently using their hands on the main ropes. In the course of the crossing they fired their weapons and threw grenades.

The second training area was set up 50 m to the right. Here they trained the men to deliver weapons, ammunition and other freight to the opposite side over a suspended cableway and in the reverse direction wounded in Goncharov stretchers. In addition to the cableway the soldiers also mastered other methods of crossing the

as a free climb, with an ice pick, as well as a "zig zag," "head-on," and "traverse" climb.

In the third training area the men were trained in moving the freight across a single cable line. For moving the platform with the load they used a motor from a "Druzhba" power saw and a reduction gear which moved along the cable. This attachment can be made by the army innovators of any unit without any special difficulty and expenditures.

The maximum bringing of the situation as close to actual combat made the demonstration exercises in the alpine training center dynamic and instructive while the able and decisive actions of the men were a weighty contribution to carrying out the high socialist obligations in the competition to unconditionally fulfill those responsible tasks which had been posed by the 26th CPSU Congress for the personnel of the Armed Forces.

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## GROUND FORCES

### MOTORIZED RIFLE PLATOON RECONNAISSANCE TRAINING

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 6-7

[Article by Lt Col M. Romanov: "A Nighttime Ambush"]

[Text] An ambush as a method of reconnaissance is employed for the purpose of seizing prisoners, documents and examples of weapons and military equipment. It is organized during the day and at night both in front of the forward edge and on the flanks or in the spaces between the strongpoints of our subunits as well as in the depth of enemy defenses, on roads, by crossings, in defiles, around springs and other areas where a suitable situation for this develops.

The method of attack can be silent or after a surprise fire attack on the enemy. This depends on the situation. The place of the ambush is chosen on the basis of a careful study of reconnaissance data and its success depends largely upon the reliability of the data as well as upon the ability of the commander to foresee the development of events.

The battle order in an ambush is determined by the task, by the nature of the terrain and by the composition of the subunit. Thus, in a motorized rifle platoon usually an attack subgroup, one or two support subgroups and observers are assigned.

...A tactical exercise was underway. The "enemy" was defending on the northern bank of the Salka River. Its platoon strongpoints were located at the brushwood Nizkiy, the ruins, the group of trees and elev. 117.5. Mixed minefields were discovered in front of the forward edge. A motorized infantry platoon was located in both of the population points of Mekhovo and Shitovo. Along the road connecting them traffic of individual vehicles and motorcycles had been spotted. With the onset of darkness, traffic intensity increased. In this situation, the commander of the motorized rifle platoon, WO ["praporshchik"] V. Rusanov was ordered to organize a nighttime ambush and capture a prisoner. The region of the ambush was set for the fork in the road (to the east of Mekhovo).

Having studied the mission and assessed the situation, the platoon commander reached the conclusion that the terrain in the area of the forthcoming actions was open, a little more than a kilometer away was an "enemy" strongpoint and 2 km away a small garrison. Consequently, success would depend largely upon the skillful use of the conditions of darkness, clarity of actions and boldness by the entire personnel. Before dawn, the platoon should return to its own positions. The most convenient

route for moving into the ambush area was the brushwood Melkiy, the hill with the tree and then along the road to the fork. The return route would be the same.

As for the battle formation, the platoon commander decided to have an attack subgroup, two support subgroups and four observers. Two combat engineers arrived for making passageways through the mixed minefields. In the attack subgroup there was to be the first squad headed by Sgt Rasakarov, a bold and enterprising soldier. His subordinates had repeatedly distinguished themselves in their strength and agility, they had shown great tenacity and cool-headedness and many had mastered the procedures of hand-to-hand combat. The second and third squads made up the support subgroups. The observers were also assigned from them. The soldiers and sergeants of these squads had an excellent knowledge of the weapons, they threw grenades accurately in the darkness, while the men assigned as observers had keen vision and accurate hearing.

Having made the plan, the platoon commander gave an oral battle order. Initially he indicated the markers, he gave information on the "enemy" and the task of the platoon and then gave missions to the squads. Thus, the second squad (the support subgroup No 1) was ordered to take up a position at the fork of the roads with a front facing to the north, to cover the road from Mekhovo to Shitovo, to be ready to fire on the "enemy" and support the capturing of the prisoner and the documents. The third squad (the support subgroup No 2) was assigned a position facing south with the task of covering the road running from the fork to the hill with a tree, to be ready to attack the "enemy," and ensure the capturing of the prisoner and documents. The first squad (the attack subgroup) was to take up a position in the center of the platoon's battle formation ready upon the signal from the warrant officer to attack the "enemy" and seize the prisoner and documents. The platoon commander took his place with the first squad.

WO Rusanov gave particular attention to organizing cooperation, remembering that success in carrying out a combat mission depends largely upon how the subordinates have mastered the procedure of actions in one or another situation. In moving up to the site of the ambush, the platoon commander pointed out, the observers with the combat engineers would be in front. The combat engineers, having made the passageways through the "enemy" mixed minefields, would remain for their security. Then the second squad would move up, followed by the third with the first squad being last. During the moving up and in their positions, each of them was to organize all-round observation and carefully observe camouflage. In the ambush area the observers were to be positioned on the flanks of the platoon. After capturing the prisoner and the documents, the attack subgroup would be the first to retreat followed by the second squad and the third would cover the retreat.

In conclusion the platoon commander announced that the actions of the scouts would be supported by the artillery troops who were preparing for concentrated fire against the strongpoints of: the brushwood Nizkiy, the ruins, the group of trees and elev. 117.5; barrage fire along the lines: the southeastern slopes of elev. Malaya, the western edge of the grove Radkaya. The call-in for concentrated fire would be two green rockets, and by radio, the word "thunder"; the call-in for barrage fire would be two red rockets and by radio the word "hail." The signal for halting fire would be white rockets and by radio the word "stop." The signals within the platoon were set as follows: the support subgroups would open fire upon the command of "fire"



from the warrant officer while the attack subgroup would act under the command "forward."

Several hours still remained until darkness fell, and the warrant officer, having left an observer on the forward edge, led the platoon into the rear and organized training there. Two variations were worked out for attacking the "enemy": without the use of weapons and after making a fire attack against it. Here the men learned how to take the crews of individual vehicles and motorcycles noiselessly and to cause fire damage to small "enemy" columns in capturing prisoners and documents. In the latter instance, with the beginning of the use of weapons, the platoon commander would give the signal for the artillery to open fire. This would be done to divert the attention of the "enemy" which was in the strongpoints adjacent to the site of the ambush. The soldiers also learned to mine the terrain in the area of the ambush as well as in retreating in the event of "enemy" pursuit. After the training drill WO Rusanov gave his subordinates a brief rest.

Prior to the onset of darkness, the platoon moved up to the jumping-off position. The warrant officer inspected the weapons, ammunition and gear and from the terrain markers clarified the route of advance to the ambush site and the route of return.

It grew dark. The first to begin moving up were the observers with the combat engineers and behind them the squads in the order indicated by the platoon commander. The "enemy" mined minefields were crossed without any noise. The "enemy" was keeping quiet. However, when they were approaching the Salka River from the strongpoint on the right several rockets suddenly burst in the sky and then there was a burst of automatic fire. But this did not stop the men. They merely hugged the ground closer and froze where the first rocket caught them. Dressed in camouflage, the scouts could be scarcely distinguished in the darkness against the terrain. Each man knew that the rockets and the firing did not mean that the reconnoitering had been discovered. The "enemy" was merely showing vigilance and possibly was nervous.

They forded the river. They moved first following the compass and then were guided by the hill with the tree which could be clearly seen against the background of the sky. Having reached the road, they followed to the right of it ready to attack the "enemy" should it appear.

They reached the ambush area at the designated time. The platoon commander, having put out observers, indicated the positions for the squads, he showed them their tasks on the terrain, and checked the possibility of observation and firing. He positioned the attack subgroup in the center of the platoon battle formation in such a manner that it could act in either direction proceeding from the situation.

Soon from the direction of Mekhovo the noise of operating engines could be heard and in drawing closer showed that a column of armored personnel carriers was on the move. The warrant officer gave the signal "get ready," however when the vehicles approached it was clear that it was a large column. The balance of forces was clearly not in favor of the scouts, and in such a situation it would be difficult to count on success and no attack followed.

When the column had disappeared in the grove Redkaya, silence fell. Not a sound came in from the forward edge and only at times did individual rockets burst in the



skies. Time dragged slowly and the warrant officer began to be beset with doubts: had he acted correctly in letting the column pass. Night was on the wane, and in 1 or 2 hours he would have to pull back in order to cross the forward edge of the "enemy" defenses before dawn.

About an hour passed when the platoon commander was tapped on the shoulder by the observer who was nearby. He silently pointed toward the strongpoint on elev. 117.5. Initially the warrant officer did not see anything but then, in straining to hear, he caught the dull noise of steps drifting down from the hill. This became evermore noticeable and soon against the background of the sky were the figures of two "enemy" soldiers who, as it later turned out, were signal troops testing the telephone line. It was not particularly difficult to take them prisoner. The attack subgroup acted precisely and confidently. Here the training before setting out on the combat assignment could be felt. The "enemy" soldiers were disarmed and camouflage cloaks brought along for this occasion were put on them.

The attack subgroup with the prisoners was the first to begin the retreat followed by the support subgroups ready to repel the "enemy" from the rear and the flanks. Regardless of the fact that the prisoners had been taken silently, they did not succeed in retreating unnoticed. At the strongpoint on elev. 117.5 they had obviously noticed that something was wrong and began to intensely illuminate the terrain. Then they opened up with machine gun fire and up to two squads attacked the scouts in the flank endeavoring to cut off their escape route. Firing could also be heard from the direction of Makhovo.

The platoon commander, having ordered the second platoon to repel the "enemy" attack by stationary firing, called in artillery firing against the strongpoint on elev. 117.5, against the group of trees and along the southeastern slopes of elev. Malaya.

The platoon hurriedly retreated to the Salka River. The second squad, having repelled the "enemy" attack, covered it from the rear. As the platoon approached the water obstacle, the firing of our artillery intensified and the rifle subunits on the forward edge joined the battle. But the "enemy" was not caught napping and its fire became evermore intense.

During the crossing of the river, WO Rusanov was severely "wounded." Sgt Rasskazov assumed command of the platoon. Three soldiers were "wounded" in the third squad and in the second squad four were wounded, two severely. The commander of the first squad had not only to organize the evacuation of the prisoners but also the severely "wounded." However the sergeant did not become confused and he confidently controlled the platoon. The prisoners moved under their own power while the severely "wounded" were carried in turn on the ground cloths. The third squad covered the retreat. The combat engineers also helped the scouts around obstacles. Soon the platoon reached the forward defensive edge of our subunits. The mission had been carried out.

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## GROUND FORCES

### MOTORIZED RIFLE PLATOON COORDINATED FIRE TRAINING

Moscow ZNAMENOSHTI in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 8-9

[Article by Col V. Kulish: "Fire Coordination"]

[Text] In modern combat the basic method for achieving success is the fire damage caused to the enemy. But this is possible only with the able organization of cooperation between weapons within a subunit, between adjacent units and the attached and supporting weapons.

Fire coordination is the coordinating of the strikes of different firearms in terms of target, time and place for destroying the enemy and its weapons. This is achieved by the skillful use of the tactical and technical capabilities of the weapons and military equipment, by the skillful allocation of them in carrying out fire tasks and by constant, steady control of fire with the aid of signals and commands. Here the ability to anticipate enemy actions is also of important significance.

For example, here is how fire coordination was organized in a platoon and with adjacent units in one of the tactical exercises by the commander of the motorized rifle platoon, WO [praporshchik] V. Antonov.

Preparations were being completed to break through the forward edge of the "enemy" defenses. In organizing cooperation with the neighboring platoon, WO Antonov paid attention to elev. 311.7 deep in the "enemy" defenses. This elevation was to be attacked by the adjacent unit but this could also influence the actions of his platoon. Along with the commander of the adjacent subunit, they discussed in detail the questions of tactical and fire coordination in the battle for this hill. They paid chief attention to the following aspect: in occupying an advantageous tactical position, elev. 311.7 was a serious obstacle on the route of advance of the neighbor. By flank fire from it the "enemy" could impede also the advance of Antonov's platoon. For this reason provision was made to organize fire coordination to suppress and destroy the "enemy" weapons on the hill between the squad of the platoon of WO Antonov and the neighbor to the right. Signals were established for coordination, for calling in, concentration, dispersion and shifting of fire.

The commenced engagement affirmed the suppositions of WO Antonov. As soon as the attacking subunits had reached the line of elev. 311.7, the "enemy" opened up with heavy fire against the battle orders of the attacking troops. The platoon attacking from the front hit the dirt in front of the hill, engaging the "enemy" in a fire

fight. The advance of the platoon under the command of WO Antonov was also impeded due to the heavy flank fire from the hill.

Proceeding from the developing situation, the warrant officer moved up a machine gunner and two submachine gunners closer to the flank into the area of the single tree with the task of destroying the detected weapons on the hill. From the signals and target designation of the adjacent unit, WO Antonov moved up one of the armored personnel carriers (BRT) and concentrated fire against the "enemy" machine gun which was blocking the advance of the platoon and operating ahead of the front. After the definite fire neutralization of the "enemy" weapons, the adjacent platoon went over to the attack and having outflanked the hill, took it.

The tactical exercise continued. In using a portion of the forces to help the adjacent subunit neutralize the "enemy" weapons on elev. 311.7, the basic forces in the platoon of WO Antonov continued to advance.

The "enemy" endeavored to use a certain scattering of the platoon's forces and check its advance by putting up resistance from an advantageous line: from a region of the pit of 3.0, two machine guns opened up fire. Being unable to destroy both machine guns simultaneously, WO Antonov gave the order to destroy one of them by the fire of the BRT while a sniper was to knock out the crew of the second machine gun. The warrant officer ordered the support weapon operating with the platoon to neutralize the "enemy" empty tank weapons which could be used against the BRT. At the same time the submachine gunners of two squads were given the mission of destroying the "enemy" personnel resisting from the region of pit 3.0.

The precise assigning of tasks and the skillful fire coordination within the platoon ensured the successful advance regardless of the diverting of a portion of the forces to aid the adjacent subunit in the fight for elev. 311.7.

The attack was developing successfully and the advancing subunits had gone over to pursuing the retreating "enemy," when out of the woods on the flanks of the two platoons the "enemy" went over to a counterattack endeavoring to check the advance of the company which included the platoon of WO Antonov.

Having quickly assessed the situation, the warrant officer ordered that they take up a tactically advantageous line and from a stationary position repel the counter-attack. The platoon commander realized that if he did not succeed in stopping the "enemy," it would reach the rear of the main forces of the company and the carrying out of the combat training task would be jeopardized. But it was also difficult to check the superior forces of the counterattacking troops with the existing resources. Then WO Antonov sent two green rockets toward the "enemy." This meant to call in fire. And after a certain interval of time, upon the command of the warrant officer, the BRT machine gunner gave two bursts of tracer bullets as a target designation for the adjacent unit to make a fire attack on the flank of the counterattacking troops.

The fire from the platoon commanded by WO Antonov from the front and a portion of the forces from the adjacent unit on the left caused the "enemy" great losses. The successful choice of the places for the firing positions of the motorized rifle troops and the flexible and clear control of fire made it possible for the advancing

troops to achieve victory. In hitting the counterattacking troops with stationary fire the platoon went over to the offensive and completed the rout of the "enemy."

What ensured the successful operations of the subunit in the described episodes of the tactical exercise? In the first place, the able organization of close coordination of all weapons both within the platoon as well as with the adjacent subunits. This coordination was based on skillful tactical actions, an accurate knowledge of the TOE weapons of the platoon and their effective use in combat. Secondly, the ability of the platoon commander to quickly assess the situation and to maneuver the squads and the fire correctly and without delay. Thirdly, the precise and prompt giving of fire tasks, the rapid concentration and dispersion of fire as well as continuous fire control. And, finally, the excellent skills of the personnel.

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## PERCEPTIONS, VIEWS, COMMENTS

### VIEWS ON U.S., NATO MILITARY POLICIES

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 24 Feb 81) pp 32

[Article written from materials of the foreign press by Col N. Nikitin: "A Corps of Aggression"]

[Text] More and more the Pentagon generals are wagering on military force. They are making an enormous effort to shatter the existing military equilibrium and secure military superiority over the states of the socialist commonwealth. In carrying out the will of the arms merchants, the Pentagon is continuously intensifying the arms race.

The U.S. armed forces have mountains of weapons and military equipment. In particular, the strategic offensive forces include 1,054 intercontinental ballistic missiles, over 1,000 aircraft, including around 600 B-52 strategic bombers, and 41 nuclear-powered submarines each carrying 16 missiles. The general purpose forces have almost 4,000 combat aircraft, over 12,000 tanks, tens of thousands of guns, mortars and antitank guided missiles and a large amount of other military equipment.

The navies have almost 500 warships of the basic classes. Among them are more than 120 submarines (nuclear- and diesel-powered), 13 attack carriers each of which carries 80-100 combat aircraft and nuclear weapons. Around 30 percent of the ships of the U.S. Navy are constantly freebooting as part of the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and the Seventh Fleet in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf.

The Pentagon strategists consider that this enormous military machine is already insufficient for carrying out their global militaristic plans. They have outlined an extensive program for creating new types of military equipment. These include the XM strategic missiles, the B-1 bombers, the Trident nuclear-powered submarines, the F-15 and F-16 tactical aircraft, the Abrams tank, the Hellfire antitank guided missiles and other weapons.

The rulers of the U.S. military-industrial complex, in reaping enormous profits from military business, do not regret the taxpayers money for the Pentagon. Thus, in 1981 alone, the Pentagon has been allocated the colossal amount of 171.4 billion dollars for an extensive program to produce and deploy new weapons systems and maintain an enormous military machine.



In their aggressive, imperialistic policy, the U.S. militarists, in addition to weapons, are also betting on various formations such as the "Green Berets," "Rangers" and so forth. One of the recent creations of the Pentagon generals was the so-called "rapid deployment forces." The formation of this weapon of aggression is based on the idea of the most reactionary U.S. circles on the need to broaden U.S. military presence in the world and to assign a special troop contingent for their local use primarily in the territories of developing countries.

The influential bourgeois newspaper NEW YORK TIMES has openly written that the Pentagon strategists at present have set at least four tasks for the "rapid deployment forces." Of course, one of the first is the task of the nonexistent prevention of a Soviet invasion of the nations of the Middle East. The imperialists would not be imperialists if they did not seek out a "Soviet threat" everywhere in justification of their own dirty plans. The second mission of the internationalist corps is to repel an attack by any nation on the oil producing countries of the Persian Gulf. The next mission put by the Pentagon policemen on these forces is to establish control over the oilfields if saboteurs or terrorists threaten to interrupt oil deliveries to the Western industrial nations or Japan. From the last mission which has been formulated as preserving or restoring internal order at the request of any satellite of the aggressive NATO bloc, one can clearly see the desire to suppress anything not to their liking anywhere, in covering this up behind the false slogan of "defense of human rights."

Officially 1 March 1980 is considered to be the day of creating the "rapid deployment forces." They are headquartered at MacDill Air Base in Florida. They include units and formations from three armed services: the Army, Navy, the Air Force and the Marines.

The newspaper NEW YORK TIMES thus has described the readiness of the headquarters for action. If an order comes from the president or from the joint chiefs of staff to leave for a crisis area, the marine general P. C. Kelly, the commander of these forces, and his staff rapidly assemble their gear, board an aircraft and take off.

But while they remain on the ground, they work in a white windowless blockhouse half buried in the ground at the end of one of the runways. In the confined quarters are stacked soldier's duffle bags of dull camouflage color and rucksacks which can be quickly picked up on the run at any moment. Next to a gangway leading to the flight field is a weapons locker with their personal weapons and this is vigilantly guarded night and day by a navy petty officer.

Not far from the "mole hole," as this bunker has been christened, when it housed bomber crews, are two small hangars where are kept communications equipment, vans and jeeps with various supplies which should be loaded onto the aircraft when they taxi up to the headquarters building.

Of the 260 staff officers, many of them, including the senior officers, have experience in parachute jumps in the event that they must land in this manner in the designated area.

As for the size of the "rapid deployment forces," they already number over 200,000 men, and in the near future they should rise to 300,000 men. The force includes the

82d Airborne and 101st Air Assault divisions which took an active part in the dirty war against the Vietnamese people, the 24th Mechanized Division, and marine units numbering up to one division, units of the 4th Air Force Air Brigade, units of naval aviation, two reconnaissance and sabotage battalions of "Rangers," as well as a squadron of B-52 strategic bombers for raids using conventional bombs.

From the 82d Airborne Division they have detached a special detachment of 700 paratroopers who are constantly in combat readiness. They can enter battle within 34 hours after receiving an order. It would require 823 C-141 air transports to ferry all the units of the division to the Near East. This division and one marine brigade could be air-lifted to the Near East and deployed there in 21 days.

At present, as the WASHINGTON POST writes, the Pentagon has worked out a plan for increasing and modernizing the Marine Corps so that it could play a more active role in the policeman "rapid deployment forces" not only in the region of the Near East but also on the northern and southern flanks of the NATO bloc. From this one can see that the appetites of the American imperialists are growing not day by day but hour by hour.

It is no accident that even now the naval armada of the United States and the other Western countries in the Persian Gulf Zone numbers 60 ships. A forward detachment of the policemen corps, some 1,800 Rangers, are constantly on landing craft ready to land. Other units should follow them. For them on Diego Garcia Island, in Somalia, Kenya, Oman and other countries, U.S. naval bases and military installations are being created allowing the Pentagon to keep the entire region "under supervision and in sight."

It is no accident that Gen Kelly, in speaking before a session of a Congressional committee, boasted that the units of the corps even now are ready to participate in combat operations. This is one other confirmation that the "rapid deployment forces" are a dangerous instrument in the hands of the American imperialists in starting up military adventures in various areas of our planet.

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## LOGISTICAL SERVICES AND SPECIAL TROOPS

### ECONOMY, SUPPLY, TRAINING IN SPECIAL UNITS AND REAR SERVICES

#### Signal Battalion Training Methods

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by Lt Col P. Kirilkin, commander of an excellent-rated signal battalion, Southern Group of Forces: "Reserves Into Action"]

[Text] The personnel of our battalion are studying with great interest the CPSU Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress entitled "Principal Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-1985 and in the Period up to 1990."

The party demands that each and every Soviet citizen find and implement reserve potential in whatever area he is employed. For us in the military this means first and foremost a search for and utilization of reserve potential for further increasing combat readiness and improving professional expertise. This is why we ask ourselves again and again: are we utilizing all reserve potential in the course of combat training? Has all reserve potential been brought into action?

We began the new training year on the firm foundation of previously achieved successes -- the battalion earned the title of excellent. More than 60 percent of our personnel possess a higher-level proficiency rating. Every man has mastered one or two related occupational specialties in addition to his own specialty. The very first days of combat training showed, however, that we still have work to do in order to improve the effectiveness and quality of training activities. Take improvement of training methods. It would seem that we have achieved success in this area and adopted many innovations. Considerable benefit, for example, can be obtained by the telegraph operator training simulator devised by Sr Lt V. Bendryshev. We gave it a practical test. We found that it significantly reduced specialist training time and improved operator proficiency. The simulator has been recommended for adoption by other subunits.

But a recommendation for practical adoption is only half the job. It is essential that each and every commander be able fully to utilize its capabilities in training classes. It was here we noted a gap. Lt N. Kramarev, for example, at first was not very enthusiastic about using the new training device. He explained that the simulator had not yet been put to the test of time, while training with the old methods, with intensive practice sessions, guaranteed excellent results.

This officer was not disturbed by the fact that Senior Lieutenant Bendryshev's men had significantly outperformed his platoon in special training thanks to utilization of the new simulator. Kramarev was not the only one distrustful of the new innovation. It was necessary to overcome the excessive devotion of some commanders to training in the old way, with organic equipment utilized in the training classes, for utilization of the new simulator made it possible not only to conserve resources but also to improve efficiency of the training process.

We decided to hold a demonstration class. At this class Senior Lieutenant Bendryshev convincingly demonstrated how much his innovation facilitates training personnel with minimum expenditure of manpower and resources.

After this demonstration class, some commanders at the platoon and company level were forced to revise their methods of training specialists. The demonstration showed that achievement of performance standards with a mark of excellent is not an upper limit but merely an important stage on the road of continuous improvement of combat skills.

We at battalion headquarters also reached the conclusion that a most important reserve potential for improving the efficiency and quality of training is flexible practical adoption of advanced methods techniques and new training devices.

Individual monthly task assignments given to officers and warrant officers to improve their knowledge and working skills on communications equipment became for us an additional reserve potential for improving training methods. Each day all commanders devote one hour to practical work on the equipment, improving their specialized proficiency. Headquarters monitors these activities. Increased officer and warrant officer interest in such activities and their endeavor to utilize this hour with a full work effort for their personal training indicate that we are on the right track.

The principal task presently facing every commander is that of marshaling all reserve potential and on this foundation to achieve additional success in combat training. Discussion of the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress compels us to analyze even more diligently what each of us can do in our own work area in order to strengthen the combat power of our Armed Forces.

#### Supply Problems in Naval Construction

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by Engr-Maj Gen V. Skuratov, Deputy Commander for Construction, Red-Banner Pacific Fleet: "Efficiency Reserves"]

[Text] At all stages in the development of the Soviet state, the party has devoted considerable attention to capital construction. "Achieve radical improvement in construction and increased efficiency of capital investment," states the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress, entitled "Principal Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-1985 and the Period up to 1990."



Military construction personnel of the Pacific Fleet have perceived this party demand as a fighting program. Construction personnel of this fleet have worked hard in past years. Many construction jobs and enterprise work forces have achieved their five-year plan targets ahead of schedule.

On the eve of the new five-year plan, however, we should like to discuss unresolved problems and present our thoughts on how we should achieve radical improvement on the fleet's construction jobs. We must state quite frankly that a smooth work rhythm has not been achieved at many construction sites. This is a consequence of deficiencies in job organization and delays in delivering supplies and equipment. The organizations under the direction of party members Comrades N. Kislovskiy and D. Frumin, for example, have performed below their capabilities this year. They have not only failed to achieve plan targets, but there have also been disciplinary infractions and poor personal responsibility by officers for their assigned work sector.

As regards resolving problems of supply, some blame must go to the central directorates, as they are responsible for the fact that construction jobs are not always supplied with everything they need. This year navy construction crews experienced greater difficulties than ever before in receiving supplies of lumber, metal sheet piling, asphalt, chalk, and gypsum.

We also know that improvement in the efficiency of construction output is secured first and foremost by establishing a reliable production-technical base, on which attention is focused in the CPSU Central Committee draft document. Proceeding from this, buildings are being erected in this fleet to house shops to fabricate structural components for large-panel building construction, and a shop to turn out carpentry items and cabinetwork. A brick plant has come on-stream, and new facilities are being established for producing non-ore minerals. The work pace at these facilities, however, cannot be considered satisfactory. Construction job superintendents should marshal all reserves in order to bring up all lagging sections.

Reducing the volume of manual labor is a serious task. Unfortunately the level of manual labor in principal job activities is being reduced quite slowly, especially in materials handling and finishing operations. Therefore we must, as the party draft document demands, more vigorously adopt means of mechanization at construction sites, by setting up specialized sections and improving tool availability at the job supervisor administrations.

Improving efficiency of construction is inseparably linked with boosting labor productivity. Here too we have inexhaustible reserve potential, and particularly the extensive application of the brigade contract method in all work forces.

Last year many crews in Dal'voenmorstroy worked under the new brigade cost accountability method. They performed 14 percent of the total volume of construction and installation work. Output per worker increased, and total savings from reducing the calculated cost of construction amounted to 70,400 rubles. Building erection time was reduced.



At the same time, in spite of the unquestioned efficiency of this advanced method, its adoption is not proceeding with sufficient vigor. In particular, by subcontractors, who not only fail to adhere to project schedules but also do defective work. Considerable criticism in this regard can also be leveled at the installation organization directed by Engr-Col L. Kus'menko. It is the task of all production commanders to ensure that in the 11th Five-Year Plan brigade cost accountability becomes the principal form of organization of labor.

The quality of design and estimate documentation leaves something to be desired. Cases have occurred where designs had to be partially reworked directly at the construction site. We have no right to enter the new five-year plan burdened down by past mistakes and deficiencies. The party has opened up broad prospects for productive activity in coming years. And further improvement of efficiency and quality of construction is a most important component part of the entire program and the tasks which will be assigned to the Soviet people by the approaching 26th CPSU Congress.

#### Indoctrination in Work Supervisor's Section

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Dec 80 p 2

[Article: "Answer Written for Form Only: A Lip-Service Reply to Newspaper's Critical Comments"]

[Text] Criticism and self-criticism is a tried and proven method of correcting deficiencies and one of the most important means of indoctrinating cadres and raising the level of organizational and ideological-indoctrination work, as well as development of labor initiative and activeness among the masses. Party and economic agencies have an obligation to respond in a businesslike manner to critical articles in the press and to criticism in general. "It is important," stresses the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the State of Criticism and Self-Criticism in the Tambovskaya Oblast Party Organization," "that an example of a correct attitude toward criticism proceed from leader personnel. Principledness in stating problems, and effectiveness of measures taken in response to criticism depend primarily precisely on them."

In the overwhelming majority of instances the editors of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA receive reasoned, businesslike replies to their critical comments.

But one encounters in the editor's mail replies which indicate a perfunctory attitude on the part of some officials toward problems pointed out by this newspaper. In particular, the editors received such a reply to a critical article by Maj G. Barnev entitled "They Shut Themselves Off," published in the 6 September issue of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

In this article the author reported that an unhealthy atmosphere of low morale had formed among the work force of the UNR [Work Supervisor's Section] in which Engr-Lt Col M. Safiullin serves as supervisor. Criticism was not welcomed, poor management and wastefulness flourished, no public campaign was being waged against the specific persons guilty of deficiencies and errors of omission, and wage bonus matters were determined without the participation of public organizations. In large measure the situation was due to the fact that the UNR party committee, which

was headed by D. Azarov, and the party bureau of the section party organization, the secretary of which was Maj I. Azarov, were failing effectively to monitor administrative activities. They had essentially shut themselves off from indoctrination work with personnel, study of the needs and attitudes of workers and employees, and supervision of public organizations. Suffice it to say that the volunteer inspection group was for all practical purposes inactive in the UNR, and the work of the local committee lacked publicity.

How are these substantial shortcomings in the work of the UNR party organization being corrected, and specifically what steps have been taken to increase its aggressiveness and to strengthen party influence on all aspects of the work force's life and affairs?

Before us lies the official reply, signed by acting political agency chief Col D. Nekipelov. On reading this reply, one cannot help but ask: has the author of the reply read the article in the newspaper? The response to this criticism appears rather strange.

The article's main conclusion is that concern for plan fulfillment and achievement of excellent production indices at any cost overshadowed concern in the UNR for people, their indoctrination, and the moral health of the work force. The reply states that "a party meeting was held, which discussed the tasks of Communists and all personnel for ensuring high quality of construction work."

There had been no shortage of meetings on production topics at the UNR in the past. And there is one other thing which the political official for some reason presents as a response to the newspaper's criticism. And yet urgent problems of indoctrination work and effectiveness of resolution of these problems -- precisely that to which the article drew attention -- were not discussed by party members.

The article in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA cited concrete facts of incorrect relationships on the UNR work force, abuse of office by certain officials, and persecution of individuals who had the audacity to "express their own opinion." There was not a single word about this in the political official's response. He merely mentions a certain "number of measures" allegedly carried out in the UNR "to strengthen indoctrination work with Soviet Army civilian workers and employees."

The political official's reply thus fails to give any clear idea of what practical conclusions were drawn following the newspaper's critical article and whether there has been a change for the better in the work style of the UNR party committee and party bureau of the administrative party organization, and whether the causes hindering smooth work by the work force have been corrected.

Essentially the political agency, in the person of Col D. Nekipelov, responded in a perfunctory manner to the newspaper article, chose to write a response for form only, and thus demonstrated a scornful attitude toward problems which concern people.

We would think that the higher-level political agency will properly evaluate in a party manner such an attitude toward the newspaper's critical comments.

## **New Supply Officer Training**

**Moscow KRA SNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 81 p 2**

**[Article by Lt Gen V. Zaytsev, Chief, Rear Services Personnel Directorate, USSR Ministry of Defense: "Time of Development"]**

**[Text]** When one carefully reads the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress and delights in the grandeur of our accomplishments and grandiose nature of our plans for the future, one cannot help but think about how responsible today is the post of any supervisor who is connected in one way or another with economic activities, for it is from the supervisor that we expect an improvement in style and methods of management of the economy. It is primarily to the leader and supervisor that demands are directed for boosting the level of organizational work, displaying efficiency, initiative, and socialist enterprise. He should ensure efficient utilization of work time by subordinates, as well as equipment, financial and material resources. This is a demand of the times, dictated by the scale of our production and the complexity of modern economic relations.

It is gratifying to note that in the army and navy rear services there are many specialists who possess all requisite qualities. Under the direction of commanders and political agencies, they supply units and naval ships with that which is needed for combat and for the daily life and activities of personnel. But alongside experienced managers we also see young people, yesterday's graduates of service schools. How can they be helped to become oriented more rapidly, to be able to cope with their assigned tasks?

It is a well known fact that formation and development is a difficult period in the life of any leader or supervisor. I can assure you that it is a doubly complex period in the life of the rear services supervisor, for the rear services permit no conditionalities. One cannot conditionally feed and clothe real people, or supply fuel and ammunition to a subunit, even if it is conducting a mock battle. Every error has its quite palpable cost. It is particularly important to ensure rapid and high-quality mastery by young rear services officers of their numerous duties.

Objectively we have every capability to achieve this. Profound knowledge acquired by the future specialists during their years of training. By-the-book organization of their daily activities in the unit and on the naval ship. Constant attention toward them by commanders, political workers, and their immediate superiors. When things are done precisely in this manner, as a rule service school graduates display from their very first independent steps a responsible attitude toward their duty, professional competence, zeal and stick-to-it-iveness. Those who have rapidly mastered their new job and brought the services they manage up to the level of the leaders include young officers V. Kuznetsov, S. Kazakov, and G. Nosov. The first two have already been promoted to higher positions. But unfortunately things sometimes work out differently.

Lt A. Nezhdanov encountered considerable difficulties upon reporting for duty to his unit. There were serious problems glaringly apparent in the fuel supply operation he took over. Unfortunately the unit deputy commander for rear services,



Maj G. Sorin, gave the lieutenant practically no help in correcting these problems. Nor did this young officer receive support in his undertakings from other officials. Instead of creating conditions for him to do his job properly and to look closely into his concerns -- it was a matter of improving record keeping, storage and safe-keeping of considerable quantities of supplies -- some of his superiors hastened to load the lieutenant down with additional chores and duties. One can easily imagine that in such a situation a young service chief could simply give up.

Soon, however, a new deputy commander for rear services was assigned to the unit -- Maj G. Vinokurov. Together with the lieutenant he thoroughly analysed the fuel service situation and mapped out a plan for improving it. Right at the supply facilities the senior officer looked into the causes of the shortcomings and suggested ways to correct them. Major Vinokurov rigorously verified execution of his instructions, but at the same time he also made sure that the service chief was ensured the requisite conditions to do his job. And results were not long in coming: today this unit's fuel service is in good repute.

As we see, the development of a young officer depends in large measure on how much interest others in the unit show in his fate, how skillfully they combine demandingness and trust in working with him, and whether they give him assistance and support when needed.

I believe that very important here is first and foremost the way the commander, his deputy for political affairs, and the party organisation address problems of rear services support of combat and political training, personnel daily off-duty activities and recreation. It is also important that the unit be deeply permeated with the idea that concern for the well-being of one's subordinates is the obligation of every superior. And this means that the activities of those who cook the meals, supply the men with clothing, launder it, those who provide medical care and who maintain equipment -- all these activities should constantly be in the attention focus of commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol activists.

It is a good thing when a new service chief feels close interest and attention from his very first days in the unit, for the act of reporting for duty and taking over a new job is a serious test for a rear services officer. Although this process would seem to be described in great detail in the appropriate documents, it is precisely here that some fresh service school graduates make serious errors. If an inspection was perfunctory and an inventory count incorrect, the very first audit will reveal a shortage. It is precisely when assuming new duties, however, that a young officer as a rule least frequently remembers this.

Some superiors also have an incorrect idea of just what daily demandingness means. Some link it with mandatory utilization of disciplinary authority at every pretext. Fundamentally erroneous, such an approach is also impermissible in work with young rear services officers. The specific features of their service are such that at times even serious errors may be the consequence not of an officer's personal irresponsibility or inefficiency, but some other reason. Let us say, for example, that headquarters failed to respond to a clothing supply service request for a truck, and supplies were late in being delivered to a unit. Obviously one should carefully examine the cause of the occurrence, not hastily blame just the service chief. Unfortunately analysis of disciplinary practice indicates that sometimes



such thoughtfulness is clearly lacking in some senior personnel. Sr Lt V. Kirillov, for example, was given several punishments for one and the same offense. And Sr Lt A. Mikhaylov received two reprimands on the same day.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not suggesting that violators of discipline be allowed to get away with things. But it is much more beneficial promptly to correct the causes of given deficiencies than to wait for the moment when they lead to consequences for which it is necessary to punish the guilty parties severely. To demand means to avert offenses by subordinates, to verify execution of issued orders and instructions, to analyze miscalculations and to support all positive elements in people's performance.

Demandingness should be directed against irresponsibility and passivity on the job. In a certain unit of the Transbaykal Military District I was told about a food supply service chief who liked going on various official trips and performing assignments which had nothing to do with his immediately duties, and later he would explain deficiencies in the food supply service by stating that he had been busy with other matters. And neither the unit commander nor his deputies properly responded to this conduct by the young officer. His negligence became a topic of discussion in the unit only after an inspection revealed gross violations in organization of personnel meals and food storage.

Genuine demandingness always goes hand in hand with confidence in a person, in his knowledge and abilities. It is not mere happenstance that Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated in his speech at the October (1980) Central Committee Plenum that it is especially important to raise the responsibility of cadres, to develop initiative in one's work, and not to be guilty of petty supervision, for excessively close supervision prevents a person from fully developing and restrains one's innovative thinking. And is it not because some people are afraid to trust the initiative of young people that we are still poorly utilizing local reserve potential and efficiency suggestions in the interests of the rear services?

The job of a rear services officer is complicated and responsible. It requires firm professional knowledge and skills and excellent moral-political qualities. Commanders, political workers, and experienced specialists must help young people in their development. The success of execution of our targeted plans depends in large measure on how this problem is resolved.

#### Supply on March

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jan 81 p 1

[Article by Maj Gen Tech Trps A. Belozertsev, Chief, Fuels and Lubricants Service, Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "Refueling During a March"]

[Text] Upon completing a long march, the tankers were to attack, without a halt, an "aggressor" force which was attempting to set up a defense at an advantageous point. Naturally the following question arose: where and when would the subunit be able to refuel the combat vehicles?

"A pipeline route is already being laid to supply you with fuel," the higher commander informed the officers. "Field refueling points will be deployed in grid squares...."

Perusing the map, the regimental commander pondered. He was well aware that it would be no easy matter for the rear services specialists to run a pipeline and ensure its uninterrupted operation under conditions of vigorous "aggressor" counter-measures. Coordinating with the commander of the pipeline subunit, Sr Lt N. Butyanovskiy, all matters connected with refueling vehicles, he once again reminded his officers of the need to maintain constant preparedness to repel a possible "aggressor" attack and to observe camouflage and concealment procedures.

Senior Lieutenant Butyanovskiy also took this into account. Estimating the situation, he ordered the reconnaissance team to choose a pipeline route taking into account the protective properties of the terrain. This promoted reliable camouflage and concealment of the pipeline.

When all crews were ready, the pipeline layers went out onto the route. The automatic equipment which firmly connected the pipe lengths swung into action. Ready pipe assemblies were rapidly loaded from pipe carriers onto special vehicles. Senior Lieutenant Butyanovskiy watched carefully to ensure that the pipe laying crew proceeded by the shortest path from one route marker stake to the next, and the commanders submitted regular progress reports.

A field refueling point was being deployed in the proper sequence in the vehicle refueling area. At the same time specialists were readying areas for vehicles, setting up traffic control posts and approach routes to the fuel dispensing stations. All this would subsequently make it possible to combine tank filling methods. The work was proceeding smoothly and rapidly. This was greatly facilitated by the fact that all documents had been thoroughly prepared in the subunit in advance, for commencing deployment of the pipeline: flowsheets, diagrams, and the truck equipment loading schedule. Now the specialists did not need to spend time on thinking about the sequence of performance of operations. Everybody knew what had to be done and when.

Finally the pipeline was ready. Senior Lieutenant Butyanovskiy inspected once more the fuel dispensing point equipment. Everything was in order. When the first tanks appeared at the fueling stations, the officer issued a command: "Switch on pumping stations!"

Refueling was accomplished in a prompt manner, and the tankers continued on their way.

The exercise director gave high marks to the pipeline crews. Their skillful performance under difficult conditions enabled the tankers successfully to accomplish the assigned mission.

I should also like to emphasize one more thing which in my opinion is of importance. Securing swift refueling of the combat vehicles was also promoted by the fact that the combined-arms commander and the commander of the combat service support subunit had coordinated in advance their actions by timetable and location. The regimental

commander, personally and through his chief of staff and deputy commander for rear services, continuously monitored fuel consumption and prompt fuel delivery and distribution. Before the exercise commenced, the regimental headquarters staff, working jointly with fuels and lubricants service specialists, did a large volume of preliminary work on supplying subunits with fuel and lubricants. Gds Sr Lt V. Zazin, chief of the fuels and lubricants service, worked out in coordination with the regimental commander all matters pertaining to fueling and refueling vehicles during combat. They worked out in advance a variant plan for refueling equipment with the means at the disposal of the higher commander -- with the aid of the pipeline subunit. All this helped the tankers top off their fuel tanks quickly and leave the fueling stations without delay.

We believe that just such an approach to organization of combat service support should be employed. Some commanders, however, at times forget to think through the procedure and methods of refueling vehicles under field conditions. A result is diminished effectiveness of actions and only partial utilization of the capabilities of the combat equipment. It also sometimes happens that subunits are late in reaching a designated point because the commander failed to consider in a prompt and timely manner how, for example, fuel would be brought directly to vehicles in combat formations and how vehicles would be refueled without withdrawing them to the rear. I shall cite the following example.

The tank battalion under the command of Capt K. Tunusov was compelled in the course of an exercise to perform a mission separated from the main forces. In the initial phase the subunit performed successfully. Subsequently the tankers had to negotiate a difficult stretch of ground. This required considerable consumption of fuel, which the commander had failed to consider when making his march calculations. Naturally he did not provide for refueling vehicles. As a result some of the vehicles ran out of fuel and ground to a halt. But there was no additional fuel supply at hand.

Experience convinces one that prompt and timely fuel support of the combat actions of subunits is successfully accomplished when the efforts of commanders and rear services specialists are coordinated in this area. Their close coordination is one reliable way to improve the level of troop field proficiency.

#### Transport Battalion Economy Measures

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jan 81 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Mal'nik, motor transport battalion commander, Red-Banner Baltic Military District: "Reserve Potential for Achieving Savings"]

[Text] "Ensure at all levels of the nation's economy a strict regimen of economy and thrift, take more fully into account the time factor, accomplish assigned tasks in a prompt and timely manner, wage a resolute campaign against mismanagement and waste." These lines from the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress compelled me to think about a great many things.

I should like to relate a small experiment. Following a tactical exercise, battalion headquarters, jointly with technical service specialists, performed an analysis of the effectiveness of utilization of material resources during the exercise, including fuel and lubricants. I shall state at the outset that the results



of the analysis proved to be highly instructive. But first I shall discuss organization of hauling of supplies.

Several convoys were formed to deliver supplies to the subunits. Conditions on the route of each were approximately identical: swampy, forested terrain and an absence of roads. In spite of the difficult situation, each convoy successfully accomplished its mission, and the truck crews achieved the specified standard fuel consumption figures.

It would seem that everything was normal. Technical service specialists, however, drew attention to the following. The drivers of the platoon under the command of Sr Lt S. Popov fully consumed right up to the limit the fuel and lubricants allocated to them for the exercise. Fuel consumption was much lighter in the other trains. The platoon under the command of Sr Lt S. Popov found itself in last place when the results of the exercise were totaled up. This officer could not understand it: the mission had been accomplished, there had been no overconsumption of fuel, so where could they find fault? It was explained to him that economic factors had played a role.

But is the following question always stated when summing up competition results: why are more resources consumed in one subunit than in another, to achieve equal results in a training activity or exercise, and what is the value of success achieved, for example, at the price of a high consumption of fuel and lubricants? Unfortunately, this question is not always brought up. And yet precisely such an approach enables one to reveal internal reserve potential for achieving thrift and economy.

Take the following, for example. Efficient utilization of simulators in the training process enabled the company under the command of Capt P. Chuvayev to save considerable vehicle mileage. Utilizing simulators, personnel did not consume fuel with idling engines in a field exercise. In addition, drivers skillfully adjusted fuel feed, "tuning" it to economical conditions.

Much benefit was also obtained from adoption of the know-how of warrant officers G. Brushika and Yu. Rodionov in all subunits. In particular, they suggested an efficient method of utilizing trailers for hauling supplies. This helped in achieving more efficient utilization of motor transport and in freeing several trucks for performing other tasks.

Efficiency innovators made a substantial contribution to thrift and economy, designing and installing at the truck park and facilities automatic relays which make it possible to save electricity and water. Another reserve potential placed in the service of economy by our clever innovators is reutilization of parts, following appropriate renovation, for equipment repair and for building working models and display stands.

...Recently I heard the following said about one of our respected commanders: "A man with an eye for economy." I consider this to be very high praise. An officer's vigorous life position and party maturity are manifested in a thrifty attitude toward his job and a sense of responsibility for achieving the greatest possible economy. This point is brought home by the CPSU Central Committee draft document. I feel that it would be a good thing to add to the lines from the CPSU Central Committee draft document quoted above a point dealing with the personal responsibility of each and every leader for observing thrift and economy.



## Accomplishments of Military Sovkhoz

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jan 81 p 1

[Article: "Greater Production From Fields and Livestock Units"]

[Text] The workers of the agricultural enterprises and kitchen-attached (galley-attached) farming operations of the USSR Ministry of Defense, implementing the resolutions of the 25th CPSU Congress, successfully completed the 10th Five-Year Plan and met the specified targets pertaining to production and delivery to the troops of agricultural and livestock products, substantially surpassing the level of the 9th Five-Year Plan in the process.

Enthusiastically and unanimously approving the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress and preparing to honor in a worthy manner this signal event in the affairs of the nation and the entire Soviet people, the work force of the Uletovskiy Military Sovkhoz in the Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District, weighing its capabilities, issued an appeal to all workers of agricultural enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Defense to take part in socialist competition to increase production and improve product quality, to increase labor efficiency with the least material and labor outlays, and adopted the following socialist pledges for 1981:

on the basis of increasing soil fertility, prompt and high-quality conduct of farming practices, to increase yields over last year as follows: grains -- 14 percent; potatoes -- 20 percent; vegetables -- 5 percent;

by means of efficient utilization of available feed, improvement in the feeding and care of livestock, prompt and timely execution of livestock care and veterinary measures, to boost the daily weight gain of feeder cattle to 1,000 grams, and hogs to 500 grams, to increase meat production by 14 percent, milk production by 10 percent, and wool production by 10 percent;

to improve economic work and, on the basis of maximum utilization of farm machinery, equipment, mechanization of laborious processes in livestock raising and crop farming, as well as improving labor productivity and achieving economical expenditure of resources, to reduce livestock production cost by 5 percent, crop production cost by 7 percent, and to obtain net profit of more than 700,000 rubles.

Sovkhoz workers and employees pledge to make every effort to promote the movement for a Communist attitude toward labor and socialist property, to strengthen labor discipline, and to observe the standards and principles of Communist morality.

The USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, jointly with the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Agricultural Workers, approve the initiative of the Uletovskiy Military Sovkhoz and recommend that farm managers, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations of agricultural enterprises fully support this initiative and direct the productive initiative and labor enthusiasm of workers and employees toward a successful livestock and poultry wintering period, prompt and timely spring planting, improved effectiveness of utilization of each hectare of land, to increase production and improve the quality of agricultural products.

The USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy express confidence that the work forces of agricultural enterprises will respond enthusiastically to the appeal of the competition initiator and will successfully achieve high socialist pledges in honor of the 26th CPSU Congress and the plan targets for 1981, the first year of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

#### Follow-Up On Criticism

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Feb 81 p 2

[Article: "...That's Done, Thank Goodness"; article referred to appeared in JPRS 77212/22 Jan 81 USSR REPORT: Military Affairs, No 1559]

[Text] On 20 November of last year an acute alarm appeared under the above title. The tenants of No 15 ulitsa Sukhonskoy, Moscow, told of the irresponsible attitude on the part of military construction crews toward their job.

The editors have received a response from the construction organization chief, Engr-Col Yu. Shesterov, and the political section chief, Col V. Sherstyuk. They acknowledge that the criticism was justified. The deficiencies noted in the letter have been corrected.

The material was discussed at expanded meetings of the party committees of all general contractor organizations. Specific measures were elaborated for improving work quality and eliminating instances of shoddy work and work having to be done over. Lt Col V. Shilko was given a severe reprimand for poor supervision of the activities of military construction crews and for bureaucratic delay in correcting problems; Sr Lt V. Rusakov was given a severe reprimand and docked part of his pay; Soviet Army civilian employee A. Zavoykin was given a severe reprimand.

#### Construction Supply Problems

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 81 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Lt Col B. Karpov: "A Good Start"]

[Text] A critical situation developed at one of the district's construction sites: job completion deadlines were not being met, due to poor supply of materials and equipment. Soon a party committee meeting was held in the section. An interim party group was established at the construction site, as well as a construction site headquarters staff. It included representatives of the client, general contractor and other organizations. Regular meetings were held each day, at which the staff analyzed delivery of materials, pace of construction progress, and utilization of equipment.

Thanks to the joint efforts, soon the construction job was back on schedule. The construction work force successfully accomplished last year's target and is working confidently on the pre-congress watch.

G. Savost'yanov, secretary of the construction organization party committee, when relating this incident at a meeting of party-economic activists of the construction directorate of the Baltic Military District, commented that such a form of

cooperation has a great future. "The main thing," he emphasized, "is that it increases the responsibility of all partners for the fate of a construction project."

Those attending the meeting, supporting the initiative of the construction workers of the Belorussian Military District, adopted tough pledges, achievement of which is impossible without coordination of the activities of all construction industry work forces. The attention of construction workers was focused on this by the district deputy commander for construction and billeting, Engr-Maj Gen A. Levchenko, the chief of the district construction directorate, Engr-Co'l N. Salomatin, and others. Noting that the 1980 target for bringing fixed assets on-stream had been met 104 percent, with a figure of 101 percent for bringing housing on-stream, they analyzed shortcomings in detail.

The principal shortcomings included poor utilization of reserve potential and poor supervision and monitoring of administrative edifice activities.

Discussed at the meeting were ways to increase the effectiveness of capital spending and to enhance the role of cost accountability. The number of facilities simultaneously under construction was reduced for 1981, and title lists were drawn up taking into account available resources.

The district's military construction crews were to adopt tough targets. It was resolved to achieve by 101 percent the annual target pertaining to bringing fixed assets on-stream, and to complete by 30 December the target pertaining to construction and installation work, manufacture and sale of commodity output by industrial enterprises.

Military construction crews are filled with resolve to honor the 26th CPSU Congress with new labor feats.

#### Problem With Housing: No Heat

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 81 p 4

[Reader letter and editorial comment: "A Building, But No Housing"]

[Text] A 12 story building was erected here in Tallinn to house the families of military personnel. It is almost a year now, however, and it still stands untenanted. The reason is simple -- there is no boiler room in the building. For some reason it was not included in the plans. Is this not an example of poor management?

A. Blyudanova, officer's wife

Our correspondent for the Baltic Military District, Lt Col B. Karpov, has informed us that the building in question is indeed not being tenanted due to the lack of a boiler room. It was planned that the Work Supervisor Office directed by Engr-Lt Col V. Malyshev would hook the building up to the municipal district heating plant. When this did not work out, they proceeded with construction of a boiler room. The builders, however, have not yet obtained the required boilers. Obviously officials at the district construction directorate should look into the matter immediately.



## Socialist Competition in Military Construction Units

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 81 p 2

[Article by Col Gen V. Bychenko, Chief of the Political Directorate of Military Construction Units: "Military Construction Personnel Competition -- A Party Concern"]

[Text] Military construction personnel are studying with profound interest the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress. Fervid support of the party's plans is manifested in enormous political and labor enthusiasm on the part of military construction personnel and in further development of socialist competition for successful accomplishment of capital construction targets in the first year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. The movement under the slogan "Honor the 26th CPSU Congress in a Worthy Manner!" has become a slogan for action for Communists, Komsomol members, and all military construction personnel.

Socialist construction is one of the most important conditions for successful accomplishment of state plans in the area of construction. The targets assigned military construction personnel for the 10th Five-Year Plan were met in all principal indices, in the principal areas and specific programs. Good results were achieved by the construction personnel of the Belorussian, Turkestan, Carpathian, Volga, Kiev, Odessa, and Leningrad Military districts, the Pacific Fleet, as well as the construction organizations directed by comrades R. Khanov, M. Gromenko, Yu. Ovchinnikov, V. Plisko, V. Bezmenov, and B. Flerov.

The achieved success is first and foremost a result of excellent labor and socio-political activeness on the part of personnel, and intensive organizational work by personnel in charge of military construction projects, commanders, political agencies, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, by all participants in the complex and labor-intensive process of construction.

Military construction units and organizations have carefully studied performance results for last year, in the 10th Five-Year Plan, have synthesized amassed know-how, have analyzed deficiencies, have designated ways to correct them, and have specified new targets in socialist competition.

The socialist pledges of military construction personnel of the Belorussian Military District are permeated with concern for further improving the quality and effectiveness of military construction. They have initiated in the first year of the new five-year plan Armed-Forces Competition for successful accomplishment of production targets, reduction in construction time and cost, and on-schedule completion of buildings and other structures.

This patriotic initiative is receiving extensive support everywhere. Tough socialist pledges were adopted by the work forces of the Kiev, Leningrad, Far East and Transbaykal Military districts, the Black Sea Fleet, and other construction organizations. Tens of thousands of leaders in production and many construction organizations pledged to complete the target for the first two months of this year by opening day of the 26th CPSU Congress and to work on this day with saved materials and electric power.



Effectiveness of competition should become an object of constant party concern. Concrete results are in evidence wherever political agencies and party organizations are genuinely pitching in. Indicative in this respect is the effectiveness of party-political work in the construction organization where Lt Col S. Pakhomov serves as party committee secretary. Matters pertaining to accomplishing socialist pledges in competition constantly occupy the attention focus of the party committee and bureau as well as interim party groups.

Client organizations, designers, construction personnel, subcontractors, operating personnel, and personnel of scientific research organizations are taking part in competition according to the "working relay" principle. The construction organization party committee has united the efforts of party members and focused resources on improved accomplishment of plans and socialist pledges.

Being in the vanguard of socialist competition signifies for communists not only displaying a personal example in labor but also providing support of progressive initiatives and involving all military construction personnel in shock-work labor, achieving effectiveness of all forms of labor rivalry. Things have been organized in precisely such a manner in one of the finest construction organizations, where Comrade M. Tomilin serves as party committee secretary. The main emphasis is placed on disclosing unutilized reserve potential and assisting lagging personnel. The party organization imposes high demandingness on Communists. The campaign for efficiency of production, totaling up results on a regular basis, and dissemination of the experience and know-how of leading workers all produce positive results.

It also happens, however, that certain leader-communists do not campaign hard to achieve the specified targets, and as a result work forces fail to meet their production targets and adopted pledges. A sharp discussion, for example, was held on this subject at the party conference of the construction directorate of the Central Asian Military District. Strong criticism was leveled at chiefs of project superintendent administrations who, in place of effective work on accomplishing adopted pledges, have attempted to overstate volumes of completed work and to distort report figures. In a number of party organizations of construction units in the North Caucasus and Transcaucasus Military districts, competition is sometimes mentioned only during periods of rushwork, which occur due to uneven work progress, poor organization of labor, and poor management. Not all construction jobs have achieved a high level of production, and many completed construction jobs are being turned over with unfinished work and poor quality.

This cannot be tolerated. Political agencies should mobilize communists and all personnel to meet their pledges and to seek reserve potential. Their task is to direct the focus of criticism and self-criticism and the force of public opinion against deficiencies in organization and effectiveness of socialist competition. It is important at every construction job and enterprise, in every shop and design establishment to ensure the vanguard role of communists, to be rigorously demanding in the area of pledge fulfillment, and to offer effective assistance when necessary.

In the course of competition many construction subunits have strengthened contacts between the party organizations of contractors and the party organizations of client entities, designers, and scientific research establishments. A comprehensive approach to organization of construction projects, training and indoctrination of personnel, and socialist competition has made it possible substantially to reduce the

volume of uncompleted construction and to concentrate manpower and resources on the most important projects targeted for completion at an early date.

An increasingly more important position in competition is occupied by matters pertaining to improving organization of personnel production and labor. A special role is assigned to the brigade contract. This method promotes innovative activity and ties in military construction personnel incentive with end construction results, develops their initiative, ingenuity, indoctrinates them, increases mutual responsibility, and promotes strengthening of discipline. Last year labor productivity in cost-accountability brigades was 39 percent higher than in construction as a whole. Studies indicated that in cost-accountable brigades work time losses are 26 percent less, while violations of labor discipline are four times less.

The brigade contract should continue in the future receiving the broadest support on the part of construction project officials, political agencies and party organizations. In the 11th Five-Year Plan it will become the principal form of organization of labor on military construction projects. According to projected figures, in 1985 half of the total volume of construction and installation work should involve a brigade contract.

At the present stage socialist competition is taking on a new scope, a clear-cut focus on end results, on plan fulfillment and overfulfillment, on achieving excellent quality of work, labor productivity growth, and implementation of a regimen of thrift and economy. Another characteristic feature is active participation in competition by executive and engineer-technician personnel, as well as work by specialists on personal production targets. Political agencies and party organizations should strengthen the productive alliance between engineer-technician personnel, workers and military construction personnel. Production leaders and youth mentors are called upon to develop in military construction personnel excellent professional and moral qualities and to assist them in mastering building trades.

It is necessary to note and support in a prompt and timely manner all new innovations engendered by competition, to take effective measures to disseminate the experience and know-how of leading workers, to boost the skills of military construction workers, and to improve organization of production. But the effect of competition is expressed not only in monetary terms. Labor rivalry develops feelings of collectivism, comradeship, and forms in military construction workers a vigorous attitude toward life.

Competition results depend in large measure on effectiveness of political indoctrination work with personnel. The CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work" serves here as a guide to action. In competition it is important to see each individual with his strong and weak points. It should help military construction personnel find their proper niche, help them grow morally, and to develop in themselves such qualities as discipline, efficiency, and the endeavor to be in the forefront at all times.

Servicemen of all our country's nationalities and ethnic groups receive army conditioning in military construction units. Purposeful political indoctrination work unifies military collectives, men of various nationalities, strengthening the friendship between them. It is not mere happenstance that wherever military procedures and discipline are firm, competition is well organized, its indoctrinational

capabilities are skillfully utilized, and relations between servicemen are established strictly in the spirit of military regulations.

The trade union organizations of military construction projects are capable of doing a great deal to improve effectiveness of socialist competition. At the beginning of the new five-year plan they should concentrate attention on dissemination of advanced know-how, scientific-technical and economic knowledge, and development of efficiency innovation and invention activity. Komsomol is taking active part in development of competition among young people. This is vividly manifested in the patriotic "26 Shock-Work Weeks in Honor of the 26th CPSU Congress!" movement.

The source of the productive initiative of participants in the Armed Forces Socialist Competition of Military Construction Personnel is inexhaustible. They have taken a fine start from the very outset of the new five-year plan. Personnel are working hard to make a worthy contribution toward further increasing troop combat readiness and accomplishment of important tasks for the nation's economy.

Military construction personnel are filled with resolve to honor the year of the 26th CPSU Congress with new successes in labor to strengthen the defense capability of the homeland.

#### Shortcomings In Housing Construction

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 81 p 4

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA volunteer correspondent Lt Col (Ret) I. Moshkovskiy, Red-Banner Baltic Military District: "Payment for the 'Services' of Slipshod Workers"]

[Text] From a distance the building did not look out of the ordinary. But upon approaching closer, an observer makes one "discovery" after the other: the walls were mottled in dirty-gray splotches, and the basement entrances were semi-collapsed.

Things did not look any better in the building's interior, including the stairwells. Fallen plaster around doorways, dirty, mildewed walls, torn-away window grills.... There were gaping holes on every single landing in the stairwells. Snow had melted on the roof, and rivulets of water had poured into the building.

One had the impression that the building had experienced some kind of natural disaster. But the elements had nothing to do with it.

The building was erected by the construction crews of the construction project administration under the direction of Engr-Lt Col A. Dogadin. As is obvious, they were in great haste to "complete the plan," while ignoring obvious shoddy work. They particularly failed to consider those people who would be living here. This is one of the reasons there occurred such things as the following: hot water, for example, was connected, but it could not be used: the shower stalls had not been water-sealed.

Building operation and maintenance personnel, in order to correct the builders' shoddy work, tried coating the shower stall floors and walls with epoxy resin and glued on plastic film. But nothing helped. The solution they found was not the best, but certainly the simplest -- they simply shut off the hot water.



A question arises: how could the clients accept the building with such shoddy, unfinished work? But they did accept it! Not only that, they gave it a mark of "good." And the acceptance board was headed not by some ignorant individual but by an experienced expert, the chief of the rayon billeting operation unit, Lt Col S. Karpunin. But do not get the idea that what happened here was an annoying but isolated misunderstanding. Another erected building of the same hotel type contained similar shoddy workmanship. It was tenanted with the families of young officers and warrant officers and turned over, just as the first building, "to the custody" of a motor transport battalion. And the new building custodians have certainly had plenty of problems with their buildings! Possessing no experience in building operation and maintenance, the truck drivers sometimes only made things worse. The radiators in the entrance halls burst last winter from the cold. Workers came and removed them, but failed to install new radiators.

One of the buildings is presently being ticketed for major repairs, although according to standard building life figures they should not be required for 20 years.

Of course such buildings must be repaired. That is the only solution now. But one might ask the following question: at whose expense? The costly "services" of the slipshod workers should not be paid out of the pocket of the state!

There once existed the practice of withdrawal of construction worker qualifications. Irresponsible construction workers who had caused considerable harm to the state would be punished by being prohibited from working on a construction job: if you do not want to labor honestly, do not shame the good name of the construction worker. Perhaps this just punishment should have been continued.

An erected building is the end product of construction workers. It should be of good quality. A building containing defects should not be turned over for occupancy. All this is true, but why then are buildings with defects accepted by state commissions? Why should the new tenants suffer for somebody else's shoddy work?

This can be brought to an end only if the people in the construction organizations are made to realize that nobody will forgive their shoddy work, no matter how much time passes after tenants move into a new building. At the present time we are making it too easy both on builders and client organizations. Under various excuses: either they are having trouble keeping up with the targeted timetable, or the new tenants have been waiting too long to move in, etc. And the slipshod workers take advantage of this and turn over buildings with serious defects, accompanying this acceptance procedure with so-called warranty letters. We are conscientious people, they assure us: if defects are discovered, we shall correct them immediately.

But as soon as the document has been signed and bonuses have been paid, everybody forgets about both warranties and conscience. Because in this instance all "warranties" were nothing more than a ruse: to gain the necessary time to draw up the appropriate documents and receive bonuses.

Are bonuses not paid too hastily? Perhaps they should be paid after a certain period of time, such as a year later, when the quality of the work becomes obvious.

Of course there are also other measures which can be taken: administrative, party. As a rule, however, they are applied to slipshod workers after the fact.



In other words, economic demandingness is needed. In combination with indoctrination and organizational work, it will make it possible to achieve a radical improvement in the quality of construction and in subsequent operation and maintenance of buildings and other structures.

### Misuse of Building Supplies

Moscow Krasnaya Zvezda in Russian 13 Feb 81 p 2

Article by Krasnaya Zvezda correspondent Lt Col A. Yurkin: "They Failed to Notice..."

[1] One day in autumn construction work began next to a high-rise apartment building. An excavator was noisily digging a foundation pit, trucks were bringing loads of brick, cement and other materials, a truck-mounted crane was busily transferring supplies, and military construction personnel were hard at work. The curious tenants asked what kind of installation was being built, but they received no answer. The secret was later disclosed, when a brick and concrete structure took final form as an impressive personal-use storage vault.

The district volunteer inspection committee was informed about this non-official construction project. Committee member Col Yu. Panfilov established that the structure had been erected for his own use by construction section chief Engr-Capt B. Menyaylov. He had built it during working hours, diverting specialists and equipment from their principal work activities. The party committee of the UMR [Office of Work Supervisor] was instructed to investigate the matter and take measures to put an end to the abuse. The matter was examined at a meeting of the party bureau of the administration party organization.

Soon an official response was received by the district volunteer inspection committee. It stated that Engr-Capt B. Menyaylov had been given a severe warning, that he had been charged for the value of the construction work done by the military construction personnel, and that he had been punished by the party: the problem had been taken care of.

Thus the final link had appeared in the alert-investigation-measures chain: a reply. The chain proved to be a little short; the analysis link was missing.

Why did the military construction detachment not learn about the abuse until after the district committee intervened, and not from its own volunteer inspection group? This is no idle question. A prompt alarm signaled by this group could have immediately nipped in the bud an attempt at unlawful utilization of equipment and short-supply building materials.

"I didn't hear anything about it," Lt V. Osmolovskiy, chairman of the volunteer inspection group, now states.

He didn't hear anything about it.... And yet personnel were diverted to this private construction job, personnel who naturally were not at their own jobs. An excavator disappeared from a construction site. A construction crew working on a heat line stood idle because of the absence of the truck-mounted crane, a circumstance which prevented the heat line from being completed on schedule. It turns out that the volunteer inspectors noticed nothing at all.

Some officials claim that such "nearightedness" is due to the youth and inexperience of the members of the group headed by Osmolovskiy. They also say that watchdogs must be trained. This is unquestionably true, and particularly vigilance and implacableness toward violations and abuses.

There is presently taking place a nationwide discussion of the Central Committee draft document for the 26th CPSU Congress. It contains the following: "Enhance the role of volunteer inspection agencies in ensuring state discipline and in observance of a regimen of economy."

This presents food for thought for the UNR party committee headed by Maj V. Ryabushenko and the party bureau of the administrative party organization, which were dealing with the case of Engr-Capt B. Menyaylov.

People also see the usefulness of their work in its results. Every alert sounded by volunteer inspectors should lead to an immediate and effective change in the state of affairs for the better. Needed here as well is a high degree of principledness by the party agency and its intolerant attitude toward everything which hinders better organization of labor and engenders violations.

In this instance both party committee secretary Major Ryabushenko and the party bureau of the administrative party organization lacked principledness and efficiency. They let things slide, avoiding attempts to penetrate more deeply into it. The bureau meeting was set up and conducted in haste. Officer Menyaylov was asked only three questions. Here is one of them: "Did you know that it is not permissible to divert personnel from their production assignments?"

Is this a case of being naive? Not that alone. Precisely such questions diverted the bureau away from the heart of the matter. It is true that when the culprit presented a receipt for payment of money for the labor of the military construction personnel, bureau member Lt Col N. Avramenko did timidly question whether the payment was sufficient. The question never got further. Also silent was the UNR volunteer inspection group chairman A. Krepak, who was present at the bureau meeting. And yet the amount of money paid by Menyaylov constituted purely symbolic payment for the work performed by personnel and equipment. According to the Uniform Standards and Rates, compensation for the labor of the excavator operator alone exceeds the amount indicated on the receipt. Lieutenant Colonel Avramenko is in finance. It is hard to believe that he is not familiar with these standards and rates. Neither he nor the other party activists, however, examined things in detail.

Menyaylov also displayed another receipt: for purchase of building materials in a motorized rifle unit. He paid for broken bricks and certain other materials resulting from dismantling a military structure which was no longer serviceable. But it was easy to determine that he had constructed his own building without taking any of these materials. He had hauled a ton of cement, several thousand bricks and a substantial quantity of steel from a construction site. Who helped him obtain these strictly allocated materials? Nor was this question asked in the bureau.

It is hardly surprising that after such an attitude toward investigation of complaints and such a lack of principledness in handling such a case by a party agency, volunteer inspectors are also beginning to ignore violations.

## Shortcomings In Transportation

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 81 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col A. Drovosekov: "A Truck Proceeds to the Construction Site"]

[Text] With the permission of the motor transport depot chief engineer, I climbed on board the first available heavy truck. The driver, Soviet Army civilian worker V. Volkov, turned out to be a loquacious individual. He readily responded to my questions, and when I asked about wages, he replied: "We are paid by the ton-kilometer. This means that you want to carry as much as possible as far as possible. But it does not always work out that way. Sometimes you spend half a day standing around idle."

"Why is that?"

"Because at one place you wait hours to be loaded, and at another place you wait hours to be unloaded. Incidentally, things are not too well organized at the central supply depot where we are presently headed. We drivers consider it punishment to be sent to the TsMS [Central Supply Depot]...."

What I was subsequently told by Volkov coincided with the contents of a letter to the editors. It stated that truck drivers are inclined to view as punishment a job assignment to go to the TsMS of the military construction organization headed by Col G. Okhrimenko. Through the fault of TsMS personnel, who fail to achieve proper coordination, there have occurred cases where cement carriers, taking on a load at the TsMS, would return with their load because it was not needed at the construction site, while lime carriers sent for lime would return empty. Or else the TsMS would request half a dozen truck-and-trailer rigs for hauling bricks, and subsequently it would be determined that there were only enough bricks for a single run, and not even enough for all vehicles. Such organization, using the term loosely, of labor hits the drivers right in the pocketbook. Driver working time is wasted, and trucks which are greatly needed elsewhere stand idle.

Engrossed in our conversation, we did not notice that we were approaching the TsMS gate. Completing the formalities, Volkov signed with relief: "We're lucky. We'll be hauling scaffolding."

Forty minutes later we drove off with our lading, and an hour later were at the destination. The storekeeper tried to turn us away, claiming that scaffolding was needed elsewhere, not here. Volkov, however, who had been in many similar situations, was able quickly to change the inhospitable storekeeper's mind.

We returned to the supply depot. This time we were hauling boards trussed into units. Work was proceeding smoothly. Driver acquaintances were walking up to Volkov and confiding a bit of information they had heard: depot operations were being monitored today. Even A. Polonets himself -- the canalized delivery department senior engineer -- was overseeing the loading activities, something that happens once in a blue moon....

While Volkov was filling out the trip documents, curiosity caused me to follow him into the building containing the accounting office and other TsMS departments.



Water standing in the driveway was practically up to one's knees. Having negotiated the water obstacle, I climbed up an exterior stairway to the second floor. As I entered, the impression was of entering a house which was being abandoned by its tenants. There was nothing left but a few pieces of furniture which did not look worth hauling away. And yet there were people working here, people whose job demands that they work to do the best job possible!

The scene depressed me, but Volkov was in a good mood: "Things are really going well today! If things could only always be that way!"

Upon arrival at the destination, however -- the supply depot of the military construction organization headed by Engr-Col O. Ryabokon' -- the driver's mood was also dampened. Military construction personnel were loading bricks into a truck, tossing them a distance of several meters. Whole bricks were becoming halves. They replied to our comment that they should not do it that way with a question: "How do you suggest we do it?"

Unfortunately they were not furnished with the requisite equipment. I thought to myself that probably here is where the "indoctrination" of wastefulness begins, wastefulness which was there before my eyes in the form of hollow construction blocks crushed by truck wheels, and damaged crates of equipment.

"There are a lot of other problems here also," summarized Volkov, casting a glance around the storage area. "Somebody should be made to answer for all this...."

The following day I visited another military motor transport depot and accompanied another Soviet Army civilian worker, driver S. Polukarov, who was hauling bricks or, as the drivers put it with their grim humor, was doing "forced labor." None of them would haul bricks voluntarily: there is considerable idle time, and earnings are naturally poor. Therefore the drivers are assigned to haul bricks by schedule.

We did not take unusually long at the brickyard: we arrived early and were first in line. We were already at the construction site at 10 am.

"We don't need any bricks," we were greeted by a military construction worker.

"What do you mean?" replied Polukarov in surprise.

"Just what I said: we don't need any bricks. Give me your load ticket and I'll note down that you were here."

Polukarov protested and demanded to see a higher-up, because the military construction worker, a Sgt M. Yevdoshenko, was functioning as a dispatcher or traffic controller or something. The latter agreed, climbed into the cab of a dump truck and headed off in search of the construction section chief.

The chief arrived about half an hour later. If the military construction workers had not told us that he was the one, Sr Lt V. Smeyan, we would have been hard put to guess: a young man was striding past, wearing rubber boots and a jacket of indeterminate color without shoulderboards.



"Comrade Lieutenant!" shouted Polukarov. "What am I supposed to do with these bricks?"

"What they told you to do...."

Polukarov ran after him: "Comrade Lieutenant!"

No reaction whatsoever. He neither looked around nor turned his head. The section chief did not have even a few seconds for the truck driver. He was extremely busy.

With no other recourse, I stepped out of the cab. I introduced myself and presented my press card. A miracle occurred. Supercilious disdain was replaced by touching courtesy and verbose apologies. They immediately found a use for the bricks: a crane operator passed them over to the bricklayers, who were building a wall. We spent an hour and 15 minutes at the construction site, and unloading the bricks took less than 15 minutes.

The drivers who have written the editors that sometimes much time must be wasted in convincing a job superintendent or section chief to give the order to unload proved to be correct. I learned this through my own experience.

But drivers cannot take this forever. Many young truck drivers, after working a few months on the big trucks, quit because loading and unloading operations are poorly organized and there are many defects in planning and scheduling hauls. This is not only reflected in a driver's earnings but also in his morale: it is not very pleasant to see oneself month after month on the list of those who are failing to meet their socialist pledges. And it is not even their fault.

An analysis of truck operations indicated that idle time through the fault of construction organizations comprised 17 percent of driver working time last year. In other words, 17 out of every 100 trucks were standing idle. Nor did the situation improve this year. A time-and-motion study of two working days for drivers hauling supplies from the above-named TsMS to construction sites indicated that an average of 38 percent of working time is expended on loading and unloading. This figure is even greater -- 43 percent -- for drivers hauling bricks from brickyard to construction sites.

There certainly is food for thought here. The large and complex tasks facing military construction personnel cannot be accomplished without good organization of hauling, loading and unloading operations. "A focus on economy, on fuller and more efficient utilization of this country's resources," it was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress, "requires a new approach to many matters pertaining to economic management." It is quite understandable that the question of efficient utilization of motor transport on military construction jobs also demands a new approach.

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